

Washington State Tour - Tulip Festival

If you love tulips, salmon barbeques, beautiful scenery and clean air, this tour is for you! Washington's Skagit Valley Tulip Festival is a celebration of colors and another year of world class production of tulip bulbs. This event takes place during the month of April each year. Skagit County produces more tulips, daffodils and irises than any other location in the United States!

Itinerary:

DAY 1 - ARRIVAL IN SEATTLE

Arrive in Seattle, WA by 5:00 pm. Your Tour Director will be available at the hotel from 1:00 - 6:00 pm to assist with information. Tonight, enjoy a welcome drink hosted by your Tour Director. Hotel: Executive Pacific Plaza (2 nights)

DAY 2 - LOCAL SIGHTSEEING

This morning's sightseeing will include Pike Place Market, Seattle Center's Space Needle and a stop at the Burke Museum. We will end the day with a fabulous dinner at Chateau Ste. Michelle.

DAY 3 - TULIPS

Make sure you are stocked with film for your camera since today is the first day of incredible beauty. Fields and fields of colorful flowers! We will tour the area and stop at a couple of display gardens before we check in at our hotel late this afternoon. This evening we will enjoy a gourmet dinner at Skagit Valley Casino Resort which is also our hotel for the next two nights.

DAY 4 - MORE TULIPS

After a leisurely breakfast at the hotel and maybe a morning swim in the pool, we once more saddle up and enjoy the beautiful tulip fields on our way to our "Bald Eagle and Birding Float Trip". This spectacular trip does not include any white water rafting, but will give us a chance to see red-tailed hawks, blue heron and bald eagles. A picnic lunch on Goat Island, across from Deception Pass is included. After this wonderful experience, we will stop off at Samish Bay Cheese and taste samples of organic artisan cheeses before we stop at Taylor's Shellfish Farm to learn about the farming of the famous Samish Bay Oysters and other seafood requiring the clean waters of the Pacific Northwest. If you are still hungry after these activities, there is a wonderful buffet waiting for you at our hotel.

DAY 5 - TULIPS AND MORE TULIPS

In case you missed a field or two on earlier tours through the valley, or you have decided to have some bulbs shipped home, we will do one last loop through the tulip fields on our way to La Conner where you will have free time to enjoy the galleries, antique shops and brew pub, but avoid the restaurants since we are headed for a Salmon BBQ.

For those who have seen enough tulips for a while, we offer an alternative tour to Diablo Dam - Seattle City Light's 'Company Town' at Newhalem. This tour takes you up

the Skagit River to the rugged beauty of the North Cascades. You will cruise the emerald green water of Diablo Lake.

Replete with salmon, remote mountain lakes and with tulips dancing in our heads we return to Seattle this evening. Our arrival at our hotel will signal the end of a wonderful, colorful and educational visit in the Pacific Northwest. Hotel: Executive Pacific Plaza

We hope this small taste of Washington State will entice you to return for another visit in the future to a different part of our diverse state.